



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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August 9, 1985

TO: The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining
THRU: Lowell P. Braxton, Administrator *LPS*
FROM: Susan C. Linner, *SLC* Reclamation Biologist/Permit Supervisor
RE: Executive Summary, Western Clay Company, Modification to
Redmond Bentonite Pit permit, ACT/041/012,
Sevier County, Utah

Attached for your information is an Executive Summary for Western Clay Company's Redmond Bentonite Pit. Public notice has been given and the 30-day public comment period will end September 1, 1985.

The Division recommends that you concur with the \$8,300 bond amount, to be held by Division of State Lands and Forestry.

jvb
0060R-33

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mine Name: Redmond Bentonite Pit
Operator: Western Clay Company
P. O. Box 1067
Aurora, Utah 84620
Telephone: 801-529-3286
Contact Person: Mr. Thomas Chivers
Life of Mine: 25Years
Legal Description: Section 2, Township 21 S. Range 1 West

I. D. No.: ACT/041/012
County: Sevier
New/Existing: Modification to
Existing mine plan
Mineral Ownership: State of Utah
Surface Ownership: State of Utah
Lease No.(s): ML-1937(State)
Permit Term: 5 years

Mineral(s) to be Mined: Bentonite
Mining Methods: Open Pit
Acres to be Disturbed: 8.5 Acres
Present Land Use: Mining, Grazing
Postmining Land Use: Grazing
Variances from Reclamation Standards (Rule M-10) Granted: None Requested

Soils and Geology:

Soil Description: Sandy clay loam - clay, these are badland soils derived from
alluvial fans and low lake terrace, alkaline, poorly drained
pH: Colorado Plateau Province Ave. 8.1-9.1
Special Handling Problems: Extremely high sodium content
Geology Description: Bentonite is found in volcanics near Redmond. High Plateaus
dissected by main drainages. Local folding causing steep dipping in stratified
formations and giving rise to hogbacks.

Hydrology:

Ground Water Description: N/A
Surface Water Description: Runoff from the area resulting from the 8 inches of
annual precipitation could enter the Piute Canal and eventually the Sevier River.
All drainage from the disturbed area is contained locally in pits and ponds where it
evaporates.
Water Monitoring Plan: N/A

Ecology:

Vegetation Type(s); Dominant Species: Salt Desert Shrub, Shadsacle, Snakeweed, Sand dropseed, Indian Ricegrass
Percent Surrounding Vegetative Cover: 15%
Wildlife Concerns: None. Area is considered to have been overgrazed.
Surface Facilities: Open pit and ponds. All raw product is hauled to Aurora for processing.
Mining and Reclamation Plan Summary: Test plots are in place to determine the most feasible techniques. Fencing has been/will be done to mitigate safety hazard. See attached.

Surety:

Amount: \$8,300
Form: _____
Renewable Term: 5years (1990 dollars)

OPERATION AND RECLAMATION PLAN

During Operations:

1. The bentonite clay deposit being mined occurs on the surface and thus does not require explosives to mine. It sometimes requires ripping. The clay is mined with a front-end loader and loaded into a truck for transport to a processing plant in Aurora, Utah
2. There will be no structures on site.
3. Any topsoil or overburden present will be removed for reclamation purposes.
4. Runoff from the minesite will be contained in two catch basins. Any water collecting in the pit will be pumped so as to flow into the catch basins.

Following operations:

1. All trash and debris will be cleaned up.
2. Slopes will be regraded to a stable configuration.
3. Soil material will be reapplied, harrowed and drill seeded with a mixture adapted to the area.
4. Test plots have been implemented to help determine the best methods for successful reclamation.